

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1283 – SB 1223

March 10, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Specifies that a requested blood test of an arrested person be a test for the presence of general hepatitis viruses, rather than just hepatitis B, if requested by a law enforcement officer, TBI employee, firefighter, emergency medical technician (EMT)-paramedic, or EMT who may have been exposed to any such virus. Removes the requirement that the request for testing must be in writing.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Independent research confirms the hepatitis B test is comparable in price to general hepatitis testing when performed by laboratories that allow blood to be shipped to the lab; as a result, it is reasonably estimated that the two tests would be similar in price in other testing environments. Any increase in expenditures for state or local government is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-10-116 and § 68-10-117, law enforcement officers, TBI employees, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics may request an evaluation from an individual under current law if, while in the course of duty, he or she believes they may have been exposed to a potentially life-threatening airborne or bloodborne disease. Because the authority to test such individuals currently exists in statute, the provisions of this bill will not significantly affect state or local government.
- Removing the requirement that any request be in writing is not anticipated to result in any significant change to the numbers of requests for blood testing.
- The fiscal impact to state and local governments is estimated to be not significant.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Handwritten signature of Krista M. Lee in black ink.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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